



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service



Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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2007 Chicken Inventory and Egg Production, Montana and U.S.

For immediate release: February 28, 2008

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There were 485,000 chickens (excluding broilers) on Montana farms and ranches on December 1, 2007, down 1 percent from a year ago, according to the USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Montana Field Office. The December 1, 2007 inventory included 355,000 layers 20 weeks old and older, 129,000 pullets, and 1,000 other chickens. The total value of all chickens on December 1, 2007 was \$2.0 million, up 23 percent from last year. The average value per bird, at \$4.10, was up \$0.80 per bird from 2006.

Montana chickens produced 107 million eggs during the year ending November 30, 2007, up 3 percent from 2006. The state had an average of 355,000 layers in 2007, up 14,000 from a year ago. The average production per layer on hand was 301 eggs, down from 305 in 2006.

In the U.S., layer numbers during 2007 averaged 344 million, down 1 percent from the year earlier. The annual average production per layer on hand in 2007 was 263 eggs, unchanged from 2006.

U.S. egg production during the year ending November 30, 2007 totaled 90.6 million eggs, down 1 percent from 2006. Table egg production, at 77.3 million eggs, was down 1 percent from the previous year. Hatching egg production, at 13.3 million eggs, was up 2 percent from 2006.

The total number of chickens on hand on December 1, 2007 (excluding commercial broilers) was 455 million birds, up slightly from last year.

The U.S. total value of all chickens on December 1, 2007 was \$1.34 billion, up 13 percent from December 1, 2006. The average value increased from \$2.61 per bird on December 1, 2006, to \$2.95 per bird on December 1, 2007.

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